

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
FACT SHEET
(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: Round Mountain Gold Corporation
Smoky Valley Common Operation
P.O. Box 480
Round Mountain, NV 89045

Permit Number: NEV97018

Location: Round Mountain Gold Corporation (RMGC)
Smoky Valley Common Operation
#1 Smoky Valley Mine Road
Round Mountain, Nye County NV 89045
Latitude: 38° 41' 36"N, Longitude: 117° 05' 12"W
Township 10N, Range 44E, Sections 17-20 & 29-31
Township 10N, Range 43E, Sections 13, 23-26 & 34-36
Township 9N, Range 44E, Section 6
Township 9N, Range 43E, Sections 1-3

General: The Permittee operates a gold and silver mining operation in Round Mountain, Nye County, Nevada. The facility employs approximately 700 employees and generates domestic (sanitary) wastewater. The domestic wastewater is treated on-site (i.e., via primary settling and anaerobic digestion) in 20 septic tanks located on the property (ref. *Map for Renewal of Permit NEV97018*, dated 10/02/2002, submitted by RMGC). The permit requires an annual inspection of the septic tank and leachfield conditions and periodic pumping to maintain proper treatment and disposal. The facility was initially issued groundwater discharge permit #NEV97018 on April 6, 1998 because the facility needed to operate a total septic tank capacity in excess of the 25,000 gpd limitation allowed under a general septic tank permit. The permit conditions restrict septic tank disposal strictly to domestic wastewater. Laboratory sinks and any other non-domestic wastewater sources are prohibited from disposal into the septic tanks.

Flow: According to 1998 RMGC figures, the total capacity of the facility's 20 septic tanks is 36,400 gallons. The tanks have been sized according to Uniform Plumbing Code specifications, i.e., number of plumbing fixtures. Tank flow (i.e., influent or effluent) is not metered either individually or collectively. To provide proper treatment, the daily flow into each tank should not exceed its rated capacity.

Receiving Water Characteristics: Septic tank effluent is discharged to the groundwater via leachfield percolation. Depth to groundwater at this facility varies from 160 ft. at the western property boundary to 400 ft. near the front of the Toquima Range (eastern boundary). Due to mining pit dewatering, present flow of groundwater on-site would be from west to east due to the cone of depression caused by the facility's dewatering pumps. The facility does not monitor direct groundwater impacts from effluent disposal in the leachfields. The facility does operate an extensive network of groundwater monitoring wells in and around the property to monitor groundwater impacts from overall mining operations, including nitrate levels. The groundwater data is reported to and regulated by the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation.

Proposed Effluent Limitations and Special Conditions:**Table 1: Septic Tank Outfalls**

Outfall #	Description	Pumping Frequency (yrs.)	Tank & Leachfield Inspection
001	Administration	3	Annually
002	ADR	10	Annually
003	Assay Lab	5	Annually
004	Main Gate Security	10	Annually
005	Day Care	10	Annually
007	Primary Crusher	10	Annually
008	Secondary Crusher	5	Annually
011	Plant Maintenance	10	Annually
012	Dedicated Plant	10	Annually
013	Purchasing	5	Annually
014	Mill Crusher	5	Annually
015	Mill	10	Annually
016	ALPM Shop	10	Annually
017	Truck Shop	10	Annually
018	Truck Shop Offices	5	Annually
019	Warehouse	5	Annually
020	General Maintenance	10	Annually
021	Operations & Safety Bldgs.	10	Annually
024	Geology (Core Shed)	10	Annually
025	Mill Maintenance	10	Annually

Schedule of Compliance: The Permittee shall submit the following item to the Division for review and approval (**all compliance deliverables shall be addressed to the attention of the Compliance Coordinator, Bureau of Water Pollution Control**):

- Within ninety (90) days of the permit issuance date, the Permittee shall submit a copy of the facility's Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual, which addresses septic tank and leachfield operations at Round Mountain Gold Corporation, Smoky Valley Common Operation. The O&M Manual shall include the facility's scheduled pumping and inspection

frequency for each septic tank.

Procedures for Public Comment: The Notice of the Division's intent to issue (renew) a groundwater discharge permit to RMGC authorizing the operation of 20 septic tanks, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to the **Tonopah Times-Bonanza & Goldfield News** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date and time by which all comments are to be submitted (via postmarked mail or time-stamped faxes, e-mails, or hand-delivered items) to the Division is **August 22, 2003 by 5:00 P.M.** A copy of the public notice and fact sheet can also be downloaded from the Division's website at the following address: <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons.

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination: The Division has made the tentative determination to issue (renew) the proposed groundwater discharge permit for a period of five (5) years.

Prepared by: Mark A. Kaminski, P.E.
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Bureau of Water Pollution Control

Date: July 16, 2003

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